

EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 2.2.07  
HB 463



## Montana Economic Developers Association

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February 1, 2007

Representative Bob Lake, Chair  
House Taxation Committee  
State Capitol  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Re: HB463 Revise Taxation of New or Expanded Business Enterprise Property

Dear Chairman Lake,

The Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) represents over 200 professionals who work with local economic development organizations across the State of Montana. We are leaders within the economic development profession, business specialists, government employees, and staff members of affiliated non-profit organizations which promote and foster economic development activities in Montana.

This bill modernizes tax incentives for job creation throughout Montana. As I have been reminded on various occasions, 'when the tide comes in, all boats will float.' This is a pro-business bill which, if approved, would provide a major enhancement to our economic development toolbox.

By providing the tax incentives incorporated in HB463, Montana will become more competitive with other states in the effort to recruit and expand various business sectors.

In closing, the members of Montana's Economic Developers Association encourage your support for this bill as it will allow local governments and the state of Montana to work more cooperatively in generating good-paying jobs and economic growth by leveraging of our tax incentives.

Sincerely,

Rick Edwards, President

Cc: MEDA Board of Directors

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